

The Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation

May 2008

#### ACCF General Meeting Notice NORMAL START TIME Tuesday, May 6, 2008, 7:30 PM Hazel Conference Center

Virginia Hospital Center – Arlington 1701 North George Mason Drive

- 1. **7:30pm -** Pledge of Allegiance (formal start of meeting)
- 2. Approval of Agenda
- 3. Approval of Minutes (April 1, 2008)
- 4. Treasurer's Report
- 5. **7:35 7:45 pm** Committee Reports/Announcements and "What's My Sign" award
- 6. 7:45 8:40 pm State Delegation Program (Page 1)
  - Delegate Remarks (25 minutes total)
  - Questions and Answers (30 minutes)
- 7. 8:40 9:30 pm AD Program Part I (*Page 2*)
  - Present "changed" Arlington Staff Proposal (15 min)
  - Questions and answers (20 minutes)
  - Potential Alternatives / Survey (15 minutes)
- 8. 9:30 9:35 pm New Business & Other Items
- 9. Adjournment

# **State Delegation Program**

The State Delegation Program is always a favorite. We have invited our State Elected Representatives (Alphabetically):

Robert H. Brink – 48th House

Adam P. Ebbin – 49<sup>th</sup> House

Albert Eisenberg – 47<sup>th</sup> House

David Englin – 45<sup>th</sup> House

Mary Margaret Whipple - 31st Senate

At time of publication Patricia S. Ticer (30<sup>th</sup> Senate), expressed regrets due to a previous out of town commitment.

**Program Structure** – We will first hear from each Delegate on their areas of concern, focus and, accomplishments. Each will also address one specific issue during their remarks (*see below*). Finally, the panel will entertain questions from ACCF Delegates or Alternates.

**Specific Issues** - The Legislative Committee provided the State Delegation six specific issues to be **briefly** addressed during their remarks. Attending Delegates are will select from these and, determine among themselves which "one" each will address. The six issue areas sent to the participants were:

1. **Homestead Exemption/Constitutional Amendment** - The Federation passed this legislative plank by a vote of 35-2. Since the language for the amendment had already passed once, please discuss how it failed to pass the 2008 General Assembly.

#### 2. Effect of Virginia Supreme Court's ruling on

**transportation funding** - How unexpected was the decision, and what are the prospects of passing transportation funding in a special session?

3. **Biennial Budget** - Considering the downturn in projected revenues, what got funded, and what did not?

4. **Mental Health Legislation** - Since this was part of the Federation's legislative package, which passed 28-4, what are the major attributes of the final legislation?

5. **Payday Loans** - This was also a part of the Federation's legislative package, which passed 33-5. There seemed to be a great deal of lobbying of the General Assembly on this bill. What finally passed, and what were the major issues of contention?

6. **Role of Partisanship in General Assembly** - Please elaborate on the AP story, which reported "a House floor clash prompts partisan meltdown" over Delegate Ebbin's HB 852.

Question Rules - Normal ACCF meeting rules will apply.

#### Tidbits

New activities or actions, considered by the Executive Committee since the April meeting are itemized. Where noted, material has been posted to our Web site.

 Committee Guidelines – Then Excom deferred action until after ACCF elections. NOTE - Our desire continues to add to committee membership and active participation in committee activities – Get Involved!

(Continued on Page 2)



Arlington County Civic Federation C/o Lawrence R. Mayer 3108 Fourth Street North Arlington, VA 22201-1614

June Meeting: Tuesday, June 3, 2008

**The Major Topics**: ACCF Election, ITAC Program and, AD Program – Part II

June News deadline: May 15, 2008

## **Tidbits - Continued**

- ADs See many revisions/additions/links to Accessory Dwellings (ADs) documents on the ACCF Web Site. County Staff has released initial changes and zoning language (to ZOCO). ACCF representatives continue to attend Civic Association meetings/discussions.
- Transportation Committee Issues Many issues relating to Metro Blue and Orange line changes (delayed decisions), Traffic Calming "comments" (Extended until May 1<sup>st</sup>) and others – see ACCF Web pages for latest!
- 4. **CIP Program** Standby there could be a "ACCF special" June or July Saturday program on the County and Schools CIP.
- 5. **Events** Plan for Neighborhood Day (May  $10^{th}$ ) and the County Fair (August  $6^{th} 10^{th}$ ) sign up to help us!

# Accessory Dwelling Program I & II

As many know, County staff recommendations on ADs will be presented about May 1st, advertised about May 17th, and voted on at the July 19th or 22nd County Board meeting (Current timing is on the ACCF Web site).

Planning and Zoning and Housing Committees have received concurrence from the Executive Committee to try to determine the ACCF position via two regular meetings (May and June). Splitting ADs across two meetings is the most efficient way to determine an ACCF position by early June. The projected approach is as follows:

**AD Program Part I** – May meeting: (*See agenda – Page 1*)

- Present County staff recommendations and review recommendations compared to the considerations and additions ACCF has previously raised.
- Questions and Answers
- Conduct brief "straw poll" or survey on potential recommendations (to be used as input to develop resolution)

Between meetings (using information from AD, Part I):

- Develop resolution (Housing Committee & Planning & Zoning Committee)
- Publish resolution or link to it in the Civic Federation newsletter

**AD Program Part II** – June meeting – Present and discuss/amend/adopt resolution.

### **Committee Chair & Representative Annual Reports**

By Executive Committee

This is a "call" to all Committee Chairs and, any Delegate or Alternate who represents the Federation at any Arlington or other Jurisdiction Group, Committee, Commission, etc. This is the time of year for you to prepare your annual report. These short annual reports of the period (June 2007 through May 2008) should be submitted via email (Word or Adobe documents preferred) or in hard copy to the President and Secretary prior to the June 3, 2008 meeting. Included should be all activities during that period and, if known, any planned future events. Committee Chairs should also provide current membership and others who served during the year.

The information will be posted on the ACCF Web site and be used instead of verbal presentations at the June meeting. A full projected June agenda precludes any verbal presentations.